OPINION SUMMARY MISSOURI COURT OF APPEALS EASTERN DISTRICT

DIVISION TWO

) No. ED101999
)
) Appeal from the Monroe County
) Circuit Court
)
) Honorable Rachel L. Bringer Shepherd)
) Filed: August 4, 2015

Kerry Wright (Movant) appeals the motion court's denial, after an evidentiary hearing, of his Rule 29.15 amended motion for post-conviction relief. In his sole point relied on, Movant contends that the motion court erred by denying his motion because defense counsel rendered ineffective assistance by not calling Movant's father as a witness. Movant argues that his father's testimony would have contradicted Victim's testimony, creating a reasonable probability that the outcome of the trial would have been different.

AFFIRMED.

<u>Division Two Holds:</u> The motion court did not clearly err by denying Movant's post-conviction relief motion. Movant failed to overcome the presumption that defense counsel's decision not to call Movant's father as a witness was reasonable trial strategy and otherwise failed to establish that he was prejudiced as a result.

Opinion by: Philip M. Hess, J.

Sherri B. Sullivan, P.J. and Mary K. Hoff, J. concur.

Attorney for Appellant: Mark A. Grothoff

Attorney for Respondents: Robert J. Bartholomew, Jr

THIS SUMMARY IS NOT PART OF THE OPINION OF THE COURT. IT HAS BEEN PREPARED FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF THE READER AND SHOULD NOT BE QUOTED OR CITED.